

Serial No. 09/621,722

Art Unit 1744

Amendment C

Amendments to and Listing of the Claims:

1. (Presently amended) A swab, comprising:
a handle defining a longitudinal axis, the handle being elongated and having a cleaning head end and a grasping end, the cleaning head end defining a securing region; and
a cleaning tip, the cleaning tip being formed from a plurality of extruded, compressed fibers formed by pulling the fibers through a die compressing the fibers into a substantially rigid, elongated cleaning head, the cleaning head being secured to the handle at the cleaning head end, the handle and cleaning tip defining a longitudinal axis.
2. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip is formed from polyester fibers.
3. (Previously amended) The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip fits snugly into a bore in the handle at the securing region.
- 4-5. (Canceled).
6. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the cleaning tip is secured to the handle by ultrasonic welding.
7. (Previously amended) The swab in accordance with claim 1 wherein the handle is a hollow tubular member defining a central bore and the cleaning tip is formed having a shape and a dimension for inserting into the handle bore forming a non-bending swab.
8. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 1 including a tether secured to the handle grasping end.
9. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 8 wherein an end of the tether is inserted into the handle bore.

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10. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 1 including a grip portion mounted externally of the handle.

11. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 10 including a tether mounted to the swab at the grip portion.

12. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 11 wherein a portion of the tether is disposed between the grip portion and the handle.

C1 13. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 8 wherein the tether is permanently mounted to the handle.

14. (Original) The swab in accordance with claim 8 wherein the tether is removably mounted to the handle.